

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PONTIFICAL CONFERENCE: DRUGS
AND ALCOHOL AGAINST LIFE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, I would like to recognize and praise Pope John Paul II for his tremendous leadership in the war against drugs. The Pontifical Council for Pastoral Assistance to Health Care Workers held a Conference on Drug Abuse and Alcoholism at the Vatican in late November.

At the close of this conference, His Holiness addressed scientists, doctors, government leaders, and pastoral workers from over 100 nations. In his address, he declared drug addiction and alcoholism as "two phenomena which threaten the human race," and stated that "taking drugs is * * * always illicit because it involves an unjustified and irrational renunciation of thinking."

I would like to submit this important speech, to be published at this point in the RECORD, so that our colleagues can more fully appreciate the efforts made by His Holiness to end the human suffering caused by the abuse of illegal drugs and alcohol.

RESPONDING TO THE CONTAGION OF DRUG
ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

(Speech by Pope John Paul II)

Alcoholism and drug abuse are closely connected to despair. Pope John Paul II told participants in the Nov. 21-23 Vatican conference titled "Drugs and Alcoholism Against Life." The conference was sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Pastoral Assistance to Health Care Workers. Scientists, doctors, government leaders and pastoral workers from more than 100 nations participated in the conference. In his address closing the conference, the pope said that while the moderate use of alcohol as a drink does not "clash with moral prohibitions, and only abuse is to be condemned, taking drugs is, on the contrary, always illicit because it involves an unjustified and irrational renunciation of thinking, willing and acting as free persons." Even medical use of psychotropic substances "to mitigate suffering in carefully determined cases must itself abide by extremely prudent criteria," he observed. It is not possible to speak of the freedom to use drugs or the right to drugs, he said. Responding to these problems, the pope said, requires a "therapy of love." He explained, "The phenomena of drugs and alcoholism cannot be combated, nor can effective action be taken for the healing and recovery of their victims unless the human values of love and life are first restored." A Vatican translation of his Italian-language address follows.

1. I am especially pleased to be present once again at the international conference for study and reflection which the Pontifical Council for Pastoral Assistance to Health Care Workers has organized each year since

it was instituted to call the attention of Christians and, more generally, all men of good will to central questions of considerable current interest affecting medical science, ethics and pastoral care in health.

My cordial greeting is addressed, first of all, to Cardinal Fiorenzo Angelini and the members of his team, to whom this meeting should be credited; and my greeting at the same time goes out to the illustrious guests from different nations, to the scientists, researchers, doctors, sociologists and theologians who are taking part in this important symposium devoted to a specific problem which in our days impresses itself with supreme urgency on the attention of society as a whole.

Drugs and alcoholism against life: This is the topic to which your reflection is directed. Quite appropriately it is preceded and in a sense prefaced by the meaningful phrase of St. Paul, *contra spem in spem* (hoping against hope), as if to claim for those who, following the example of the aged patriarch Abraham, trustingly believe in God's promises, the right not to abandon hope ever, even when humanly speaking such hope might seem empty and groundless. Drug addiction and alcoholism, in view of their intrinsic seriousness and devastating spread, are two phenomena which threaten the human race, shattering—in the individual, in the family environment and in the social fabric—the deepest motivations for the hope which, to be such, must be hope in life—hope of life.

2. On careful consideration, indeed, it is easy to discover a twofold connection between these phenomena and despair. On the one hand, at the root of alcohol and drug abuse—though a painful complexity in causes and situations exists—there is usually an existential void due to the absence of values and a lack of self-confidence, of confidence in others and in life in general; on the other, the difficulties which are encountered to get out of that situation, once established, aggravate and amplify the sense of despair, and the victims, their families and the surrounding community are thereby led to an attitude of resignation and surrender.

Over the course of the years, moreover, the alcoholism and drug picture has grown out of all proportion, and today we are faced with insidious social plagues, which have spread throughout the world, fostered by vast economic interests and sometimes political ones as well. While many lives are thus consumed, the powerful drug lords arrogantly abandon themselves to luxury and dissipation. If considered in human terms, the reasons for despair (*contra spem*) would seem to prevail, especially for the families which, having been marked and directly stricken by the sad phenomenon, do not feel sufficiently assisted and protected. With deep affection I am close to them and share their sorrow; I would like to meet them one by one, take them some of Christ's consolation (cf. 2 Cor. 1:5) and spur them to react against the sense of abandonment and the temptation to become discouraged.

Very often when thinking of the victims of drugs and alcohol—generally young people, though their spread among adults is a source

of growing concern—I am led to recall the man in the Gospel parable who, when assaulted by criminals, was robbed and left half-dead along the road to Jericho (cf. Lk. 10:29-37). In fact, these too strike me as people "on a journey" who are searching for something in which to believe in order to live; they instead run up against the merchants of death, who assault them with the allurements of illusory freedoms and false prospects for happiness. These victims are men and women who, unfortunately, find themselves robbed of the most precious values, profoundly wounded in body and in spirit, violated in the depth of their consciences and offended in their dignity as persons. In these situations the reasons leading one to abandon all hope might really appear strong.

3. While aware of this, you and I nevertheless wish to testify that there are reasons to go on hoping, and they are much stronger than those against hope (*contra spem in spem*). Indeed today too, as in the Gospel parable, good Samaritans are not lacking who, with personal sacrifice and sometimes at a risk to themselves, are able to "become the neighbor" of those in difficulty. For this reason, I want to say to the families touched by trial: Do not despair! Rather, pray with me that these good Samaritans working at public facilities and in volunteer groups will multiply among private citizens and the leaders of nations, and a united front will thus be formed, engaged increasingly not only in prevention and the rehabilitation of drug addicts, but also in denouncing and legally prosecuting those trafficking in death and in demolishing the webs of moral and social disintegration.

We are now faced with a phenomenon of terrifying scope and proportions not only because of the very high number of lives brought to an end, but also because of the worrisome spread of moral contagion, which for some time now has been reaching the very young as well, as in the case—unfortunately, not uncommon—of children forced to become dealers and, along with their peers, consumers themselves. I thus repeat the heartfelt appeal I addressed several years ago to the different public bodies, both national and international, that they "curb the expansion of the drug market. To this end, the interests of those speculating on that market must first of all be brought to light; the instruments and mechanisms they make use of should then be identified; and, finally, the coordinated, effective dismantling of these ought to begin. In addition we must work for the integral development of those populations which, in order to subsist, devote themselves to the production of such substances. At the same time, an attempt must be made to promote interconnected service networks working for real prevention of this evil and sustaining the rehabilitation and reintegration of the young people affected by it" (Address Sept. 23, 1989).

4. There is certainly a clear difference between resorting to drugs and turning to alcohol: Whereas the moderate use of alcohol as a drink does not, in fact, clash with moral prohibitions and only abuse is to be condemned, taking drugs, is, on the contrary, always illicit because it involves an unjusti-

* This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

field and irrational renunciations of thinking, willing and acting as free persons. Moreover, recourse to psychotropic substances by medical prescription to mitigate suffering in carefully determined cases must itself abide by extremely prudent criteria to avoid dangerous forms of habituation and dependence. The task of health authorities, physicians and the officers of research centers is to work to reduce such risks to a minimum through measures for prevention and information.

Drug addiction and alcoholism are against life. We cannot speak of the "freedom to take drugs" or the "right to drugs," for the human being has no right to harm himself and neither can nor should ever abdicate the personal dignity which comes to him from God! These phenomena—it must always be remembered—are not only detrimental to physical and psychic well-being, but frustrate the person precisely in his or her capacity for communion and self-giving. All of this is particularly serious in the case of the young. Theirs is, in fact, the age which opens to life, the age of the great ideals, the season of sincere, oblationary love.

I wish therefore to say once more to the young with heartfelt solicitude: Beware of the temptation of certain illusory, tragic experiences! Do not surrender to them! Why head into a deadend street? Why renounce the full maturation of your years, accepting an early senescence? Why waste your lives and your energies, which can instead find joyful affirmation in the ideals of honesty, work, sacrifice, purity and true love?

That's it—love! For the victims of alcoholism, for the family and social communities which suffer so much on account of this infirmity of their members, the church in the name of Christ proposes as an answer and an alternative the therapy of love: God is love and whoever lives in love achieves communion with others and with God. "He who does not love remains in death" (1 Jn. 3:4). But whoever loves tastes life and remains therein!

Dear brothers and sisters, the phenomena of drugs and alcoholism cannot be combated nor can effective action be taken for the healing and recovery of their victims unless the human values of love and life are first restored—the only ones capable, especially if illuminated by religious faith, of giving full meaning to our existence. Society cannot and must not oppose its indifference against the sense of being outsiders which so often afflicts drug addicts or regard itself as absolved simply because it supports the action of volunteers, which is indeed irreplaceable but inevitably insufficient by itself. Laws are needed! Facilities are needed! Bold action is required!

5. As it is up to the church, then, to work on a moral and pedagogical level, intervening with great sensitivity in this specific area, so it is up to public institutions to adopt a serious policy aimed at healing situations of personal and social unease, among which the crisis in the family—the principle and foundation of human society, unemployment among young people, housing problems, social and health services and the educational system stand out. In this campaign for prevention, treatment and recovery the interdisciplinary research to which this conference has made such a significant contribution has a decisive role to play.

In congratulating you on the efforts and results of this helpful scientific colloquium, I also wish to address a word of sincere appreciation to the vast multitude of young and not-so-young people participating in re-

habilitation programs and every other endeavor directed toward this noble purpose. With the assurance of my fervent prayer and my heartfelt solidarity, I reiterate my invitation for them to look trustingly at life, to believe in the inestimable greatness of the destiny of the human person, who—I love to repeat—is a reflection of the very image of God. In a word, I repeat once again the invitation to hope against all hope—contra spem in spem—and I particularly address it to those who, with admirable generosity and in a Christian spirit, become neighbors to their brothers and sisters in need of help because they have been affected and overwhelmed by these two deplorable phenomena.

The church, which desires to work in society as the leaven of the Gospel—and this is her duty—is and will continue to be ever at the side of those facing the social plagues of drugs and alcoholism with responsible dedication to encourage and support them with the words and the grace of Christ. He is the light that illuminates man and can lead him to the port of a more mature and worthy existence.

May the Most Blessed Virgin accompany the generous efforts of all who devote their energies to this arduous and valiant service. Upon them, in the hope of supernatural assistance, I wholeheartedly bestow my blessing.

FARM AND RANCH AWARD HONOREES FROM SOUTH TEXAS

HON. E de la GARZA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of participating in the presentation of the third annual Fort Worth Star-Telegram Farm and Ranch Awards on January 24, 1992. These awards recognize some of Texas' most skilled producers and marketers of food, fiber, and timber.

More than 1,100 people were nominated by fellow farmers and ranchers, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Tech University, Texas A&M University, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Department of Agriculture, agribusiness leaders, and others. The Star-Telegram selected the honorees on the basis of production, management, and marketing criteria, and relies on the advice of hundreds of agricultural experts.

One of this year's 26 honorees was the Beckwith family of Progreso, TX, who live in the 15th District which I represent. As chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, I know that their success in agriculture has not come easily. The late Art Beckwith, Sr., a good and dear friend of mine, was one of the pioneers in reestablishing the Rio Grande Valley's sugarcane industry. I have many fond memories of our association. His legacy is a family that follows his path of innovation, hard work, and love for the land.

I am pleased to bring to my colleagues' attention the business success stories of the Beckwith family that was published in the January 26, 1992, edition of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram:

[From the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Jan. 26, 1992]

SUGAR CANE: HOW PERPETUAL MOTION CREATES STEADY PROFITS

PROGRESO.—Arthur E. Beckwith may be the archetypal workaholic manager of modern Texas agriculture.

Arthur is a cowboy fluent in Spanish, a former rodeo performer, a farmer and rancher, equally at home evaluating agricultural economics and computer programs, the merits of sheep, goats, cattle or horses and research on pesky insects that suck sugar cane and help turn the sugar to acid.

Based on eyewitness, associates' and his wife's testimony, Beckwith rarely stops long to rest as he gyrates among his agricultural, agribusiness, civic and other chores. He's on the regional sugar mill's board of directors and the local school board.

His and his wife's farming and ranching operations are split between this area where many of their farm fields abut the Rio Grande levee and the desert-like region between Sonora and Del Rio in southwest Texas.

Nan Wardlaw Beckwith, Arthur's wife, says that when they go north to manage the Wardlaw's goat and sheep ranch, they work so long that she finds herself wearing chaps and boots while doing the cooking chores.

Arthur, 50, trained the favorite horse of his professional rodeo-riding son, Benton Beckwith, 24. Benton has returned from college to work and train under his father to manage the farm business someday.

Beckwith Farms' sugar cane production normally ranks among the highest volumes grown and harvested by the 114 Texas sugar producers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Arthur said he keeps about 1,400 acres in sugar cane and 1,400 acres divided into a large sector of cotton, smaller acreage of seed corn and occasionally, some grain sorghum.

Two years ago he bought more land and almost doubled his cane acreage from the previous 750 acres. And he was able to do that despite the cane-killing freeze of 1989, which slashed 65 percent of Beckwith Farms' sugar income.

Arthur has been one of the cane growers' leading supporters of research to control the rice borer, an insect that loves sugar cane as much as rice.

His farm provided a field laboratory for scientists to develop a natural product to curb the rice borer. Insecticides and parasites had failed to do the job, industry experts said.

The new weapon developed from that research is laced with the female borer's own pheromone that prompts the male to mate during the moth stage of the borer's lifecycle. Year-round emissions of the pheromone leave almost all male moths confused and unable to find females; so they can't reproduce.

Arthur said he expects the product to be approved for commercial use.

For now, he said, the best defense against the borers is a good offense, growing lush cane. The insects prefer to attack weakened cane.

His farm's average yields of sugar cane, which grows back annually from roots and stubble as permitted, normally range from 45 to 50 tons an acre in each of the first two years of each field's production to about 35 tons an acre in the fourth or fifth years, Arthur said.

The farm's cane normally averages yielding from 170 to 200 pounds of sugar per ton of cane, with most harvests at 180 pounds or more.

The cane yields usually place Beckwith Farms in the top 15 percent of Valley growers, and the sugar yields, in the top 10 percent to 25 percent of the growers.

The 114 growers are member-owners of the Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers Association, which owns and operates the cane sugar mill and markets the sugar for the farmers.

Arthur serves on the milling association's field operations and sales committees. Field operations duties required him to help other mill officials and growers to resolve a brief strike by the mill's harvesting and trucking workers last November.

Arthur's chores on the sales committee were easier because of his past as a cattle raiser. He and his father, the late Arthur Beckwith Sr., were commercial cattle ranchers and among the pioneers in importing registered purebred Charolais cattle from France to the United States from the late 1950s through the 1960s. Arthur also worked briefly as a livestock feed supplements salesman.

The experience helped him land contracts with cattle feed mills needing molasses as an additive. The sugar mill's lower quality sugar is marketed as feed-grade molasses.

Arthur Sr. was one of the mill's founders and a 1960s pioneer in reestablishing the Valley's cane farming industry. Insects, low prices and other problems had destroyed the region's first cane venture in the 1920s.

The key to growing good sugar, Arthur said, is "timeliness" of management.

That means planting new cane after two rounds of cotton. He doesn't have to fertilize the first-year cane because the crop reaps carryover nitrogen and other nutrients applied to the cotton.

Arthur also times his applications of herbicides and cultivations to get the best weed and grass control possible.

Using heavy-duty, collapsible plastic irrigation systems and more traditional pipe, Arthur's employees put 0.4 acre foot of Rio Grande water across the 1,400-acre crop every two weeks from May to early September, unless it rains.

The collapsible pipe doesn't have to be picked up; so, it cuts labor costs. It can be traversed with heavy tractors and not damaged.

In 1990-91, still recovering from the 1989 freeze, Arthur's timely management paid off. Beckwith Farms produced 30 percent more cane per acre and almost 20 percent higher sugar content than the industry averages that season.

But, said Arthur, "It takes two to three years to recover from freezes."

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. OSWALD

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding citizen, Detective John R. Oswald, from Midland, MI.

Detective Oswald began his law enforcement career as a police officer for the city of Detroit in 1978. In 1980, he began his service to the city of Midland as a police officer and was promoted to the rank of detective in August 1990. Detective Oswald is recognized for his diligent manner, performing his duties not only with a high standard of professionalism,

but also a sense of fairness and an ever-present friendly smile. In the words of none of his fellow workers, Detective Oswald is "an excellent example of what a police detective should be."

Active in all phases of criminal investigations, Detective Oswald has assumed all of the duties which relate to fraud and bad check investigations. Additionally, Detective Oswald has proven to be a vital link to the Midland community by sponsoring several programs for its members, covering topics ranging from bad check policies to personal and home safety.

This year has only exemplified Detective Oswald's distinction. In addition to his professional duties, Detective Oswald played the role of Mr. Mom by caring for his twin 8-year-old daughters in order that his wife, Lori, could attend classes in the Detroit area. Although he assumed these extra duties, his efficiency as an officer remained unaffected. His contributions to his family and to his community most certainly cannot be measured.

Mr. Speaker, Detective Oswald was awarded the Carl and Esther Gerstacker award for Police Officer of the Year for 1991. I am certain that you will join me in honoring and thanking John Oswald for his genuine commitment to the people of mid-Michigan.

IN TRIBUTE TO ELEANOR L. SCHER

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the family of Eleanor L. Scher, who passed away on November 6, in Santa Barbara, CA, after a sudden illness, and to place in our Nation's permanent RECORD a few words about this outstanding individual. Ele will always be remembered as a woman of remarkable grace, determination, and inspiration.

It is difficult to sum up any one part of Ele's life. There is simply too much that is good about Ele to fit on one page. Born in Chicago in 1927, Ele was a graduate of Northwestern University, at a time when higher education was an unusual pursuit for most women.

Her life as a wife, mother, civic leader, and community leader was filled with concern and action on the behalf of others.

Ele believed in solving problems. She prodded, cajoled, organized, and followed through on a variety of educational, social service, health and art projects.

In Highland Park, Ele played a key role in creating the Focus on the Arts Program for Highland Park High School, where young people could study and perform dance, theater, and music under the watchful eye of professionals.

As president of the North Shore's chapter of the Brandeis University National Women's Committee, Ele helped build her chapter into the Nation's largest and most productive while she lived in Highland Park.

When her family moved to Santa Barbara, Ele single handedly pushed and ultimately es-

tablished the Family Service Division within the Jewish Federation. As the director of this project, Ele understood that just because someone lived in Santa Barbara, it did not mean that the family was wealthy or without problems. Ele pursued community service not for recognition, but to get the job done, and she excelled.

In addition to her public service roles, Ele and her husband Joe worked to support their daughter-in-law, Sharan Monsky Scher, in her fight against scleroderma, through the research foundation which Sharan founded.

Ele's family was the central part of her life. She and Joe raised four talented children, and Ele's spirit, vitality, and determination lives on in her children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Eleanor Scher set an example of selfless community service and a concern for the welfare of others which we all should admire and pursue.

RURAL DOCTOR RETIRES AFTER 44 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BILL ALEXANDER

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, January 26, rural Arkansas celebrated the retirement of a much-loved and highly respected family physician.

Dr. Herd Stone, of Holly Grove, AR, cared for patients in northeast Arkansas for 44 years. I would like to take a moment to pay homage to his valuable service in meeting the health care needs of rural Arkansans. Medicine was much more than a job for Dr. Stone. He cared for the people he served and it showed in his work every day.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the following article from the Monroe County Sun into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as a tribute to Dr. Stone.

[From the Monroe County Sun, Clarendon, AR, Jan. 30, 1992]

DR. HERD STONE HONORED WITH RETIREMENT RECEPTION IN HOLLY GROVE SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Dr. Herd E. Stone, who retired recently after providing medical care to patients in Holly Grove and the surrounding areas for 44 years, was honored Sunday afternoon at a reception at the Holly Grove Legion Hut. Many friends, former patients and a number of his fellow physicians visited and spoke with Dr. and Mrs. Stone during the afternoon hours.

Raymond Abramson, Holly Grove attorney, directed a brief recognition service midway of the reception. He related that Dr. Stone "healed us when we were sick; consoled, counseled, showed compassion and concern when needed; and affected our lives in many ways—not just in health areas." He also said that on the Super Bowl Sunday Dr. Stone was "the winner of the Super Bowl of Life."

The Holly Grove City Council had unanimously approved a proclamation officially designating Sunday, January 28, as "Dr. Herd E. Stone Day" and Mayor Donna Hill presented him a plaque in honor of his day. She also presented him a street sign like ones to be placed on North Main Street renaming it as Dr. Herd E. Stone Street.

Others presented gifts including a plaque from the First Baptist Church and a trip and new boat from a group of friends and associates. The last gift presentation was made by Bill Reynolds, president of the Holly Grove Bank.

Special remarks concerning Dr. Stone's medical expertise were given by Dr. Pat McCarty. Dr. McCarty recently retired from the Helena Medical Center. Dr. McCarty and Dr. Stone were in the armed services together.

Dr. Stone graciously accepted the gifts and many expressions of love from those attending the reception. He then received a prolonged ovation from the group that filled the Legion Hut and overflowed to the outside.

RESTORING CREDIT AVAILABILITY

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Credit Availability Act of 1992.

We remain in the midst of a serious credit crunch. Creditworthy borrowers are increasingly being denied the means to buy homes, meet family needs, start small businesses, build or renovate necessary plant and equipment, undertake important research and development, and perform any one of a number of other functions that would improve the lives of our citizens, increase our productive capacity, and help renew economic growth in this country.

We must turn our economy around and must restore the flow of funds to creditworthy borrowers. But our economy is only as good as the financial system which must fund its growth. It will be impossible to restore credit availability unless we restore common sense to the regulation of our financial institutions.

Responsible regulation of our financial institutions requires balancing safety and soundness concerns with the goal of achieving a free flow of funds to productive effort. These goals are compatible and, indeed, mutually reinforcing.

But, in recent years, because of the problems we have experienced in our financial sector, we have focused exclusively on the need to build capital in our financial institutions, ignoring the impact of such a single-minded focus on our economy. Capital strength is an important goal and must not be sacrificed. But some greater flexibility is appropriate and necessary.

Our financial institutions can spend any given dollar either on building capital, or on lending. Badly needed lending is now being sacrificed as our financial institutions are being forced to focus exclusively on a rapid build-up of capital in a market that makes such rapid capital accumulation virtually impossible. It is time we balance the legitimate goal of achieving new, tougher standards against other equally important policy objectives; revitalizing our economy and ensuring the flow of credit to worthy borrowers.

My legislation would simply grant the regulators discretion to allow our profitable community lending institutions that are clearly building capital more time to fully meet new standards.

This will allow them to continue to channel badly needed funds to housing, business start-ups, community development, improvement in productive capacity and other important community needs. The legislation would not change the standards institutions are ultimately required to meet. It simply recognizes the serious economic difficulties we face and grants the regulators the flexibility to respond appropriately.

Our deteriorating economy has already forced the regulators to consider new and, in the minds of some, controversial approaches to the resolution of financial institutions. In recent days, to prevent the endless build-up of assets in Government hands, the Government has actually channeled funds into weak institutions to buy time to work out their problems. I believe this is a useful and innovative approach which merits our serious consideration. But, surely, if we are willing to channel Government money into weak institutions to keep assets in the private sector and buy time to minimize loss, we should be willing to provide stable, profitable institutions more time to turn their own profits into building their capital strength, so they can ultimately be resolved at no cost to the Government.

A number of Members on both sides of the aisle have already expressed an interest in cosponsoring this legislation and I am grateful for their encouragement and support. Rather than delay introduction to solicit a complete list of cosponsors, I am introducing the legislation today to get the process moving and provide more time for the discussion of this issue. I ask the support of my colleagues for this important legislation in the days ahead and urge their cosponsorship.

The text of the bill follows:

H.R. 4234

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Section 5(t) of the Home Owners' Loan Act (12 U.S.C. 1464(t)) is amended—

(a)(1) in subparagraph (1)(C), by striking "The standards" and inserting "After December 31, 1996, the standards";

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by inserting "until January 1, 1997," after "shall"; and

(ii) by striking "not less than" and inserting "equal to";

(B) in subparagraph (C), by adding at the end the following new sentence: "Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, until January 1, 1997, the risk-based capital requirements prescribed under paragraph (1) shall be 90% of the risk-based capital requirements applicable to national banks.";

(3) in paragraph (5)(D), by striking clause (iii).

(b) by adding to the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(11) EXCEPTIONS GRANTED BY DIRECTOR—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director may grant exceptions from paragraphs 1, (3)(A) and (5) of this subsection for eligible institutions in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph.

(B) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—A savings association is eligible for exceptions from paragraphs (1), (3)(A) and (5) of this subsection if the association satisfies the conditions in paragraph (7)(C)(i) and demonstrates—

(i) increasing capital ratios for at least 2 of the 3 preceding calendar quarters;

(ii) profitability for at least 2 of the 3 preceding calendar quarters;

(iii) substantial compliance with an approved capital plan if the institution is otherwise required to submit such a plan;

(iv) an agreement not to pay dividends on capital stock during the period of the exception without the approval of the Director; and

(v) support for the credit needs of its community.

(C) EXCEPTIONS.—An exception may be granted:

(i) for an eligible institution from complying with any of the scheduled reductions beginning after December 31, 1991 under paragraph (3)(A) until after December 31, 1996, after which the institution shall comply with such reductions;

(ii) for an eligible institution from complying with any of the scheduled reductions beginning after June 30, 1992 under paragraph (5) until after June 30, 1996, after which the institution shall comply with such reductions.

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN POLICY

HON. ENI F.H. FALCOMAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. FALCOMAEGA. Mr. Speaker, through Public Law 102-188 (S.J. Res. 217, H.J. Res. 342), Congress and the President designated 1992 as the Year of the American Indian. This law pays tribute to the people who first inhabited the land now known as the continental United States. Although only symbolic, this gesture is important because it shows there is sympathy in the eyes of a majority of both Houses of the Congress for those Indian issues which we as a Congress have been struggling with for over 200 years. In support of the Year of the American Indian, and as part of my ongoing series this year, I am providing today for the consideration of my colleagues a partial history of Indian policy. This list was taken from a U.S. Department of the Interior publication "A History of Indian Policy." Submitted today are dates of significant development in Indian policy covering the years from 1800 A.D. through 1899.

DATES SIGNIFICANT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN POLICY

1803: As a result of the Louisiana Purchase from France a vast new territory with a large Indian population is added to the United States, and Thomas Jefferson proposes the removal of eastern Indians to the area west of the Mississippi.

1803 to 1806: The Lewis and Clark Expedition contacts many new Indian tribes as it explores the region from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean for the United States.

1806: Office of Superintendent of Indian Trade created in the War Department to administer Federal Indian trading houses.

1812 to 1819: West Florida, then East Florida acquired from Spain, and the United States is involved in the Seminole War.

1819: Fund created by the Congress for the "civilization of the Indians."

1822: Indian trading houses and Office of Indian Trade abolished by Congressional action.

1824: The Secretary of War creates a Bureau of Indian Affairs within the War Department.

1830: Indian Removal Act passed by the Congress.

1831: Landmark decision by the Supreme Court in Cherokee Nation vs. Georgia.

1832: The Supreme Court hands down another landmark decision in Worcester vs. Georgia.

1832 to 1842: Federal Government removes portions of "Five Civilized Tribes" from southeastern states to Indian Territory.

1832: Office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs created within the War Department.

1834: Indian Trade and Intercourse Act redefines Indian country and introduces significant changes through reorganization of the Indian Service.

1845 to 1846: Republic of Texas enters Union and Texas Indian tribes are brought under Federal control.

1846: The Oregon Country with its Indian tribes becomes part of the United States as a result of a settlement with England.

1848: The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ends the war with Mexico and the "Spanish Southwest" with its Indian tribes becomes part of the United States.

1849: By Congressional action the Bureau of Indian Affairs is transferred from the War Department to the new Department of the Interior.

1850's: With the opening of Indian Territory west of the Mississippi to settlement it became Government policy to set aside reservations for Indian tribes.

1853: By the Gadsden Purchase the United States acquires additional territory and Indian lands from Mexico.

1866: As punishment for their support of the Confederacy, the Five Civilized Tribes were compelled to accept new treaties by which they relinquished the western half of Indian Territory some 20 tribes from Kansas and Nebraska were settled in 13 new reservations.

1867 to 1868: Indian Peace Commission negotiates final treaties with Indians (last of 370 with the Nez Perce on August 13, 1868).

1869: President Grant's so-called "Peace" policy inaugurated.

1869: Act creating Board of Indian Commissioners (continued until eliminated by Executive Order in 1933).

1869: The completion of the Transcontinental railroad and the beginning of the end of the buffalo herds bring great change in the lives of the Plains Indians.

1870 to 1876: Following Federal Indian policy the remaining tribes were placed on reservations, with the help of the military when necessary. Rations of food and clothing were made available in lieu of the privilege of hunting in "customary places."

1870's: Beginnings of a Federal program to provide schools for the education of Indians.

1871: The negotiation of treaties between the United States and Indian tribes is ended by Congressional action.

1878: Congress authorizes the establishment of a United States Indian Police.

1883: Courts of Indian Offenses were authorized to allow tribal units to administer justice in all but the major crimes.

1885: United States courts were given jurisdiction over Indian cases involving major crimes (murder, manslaughter, rape, assault with intent to kill, arson, burglary, and larceny).

1887: The General Allotment or Dawes Severalty Act makes the allotment of land to individual Indians and the breaking up of tribal landholdings the official policy of the United States.

1889: Two million acres of Oklahoma Territory was bought from the Indians and thrown open for settlement.

1891: Provision is made for the leasing of allotted Indian lands.

1898: The Curtis Act extends the effect of the Allotment Policy to the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory.

SALUTE TO JOHN AND MARY COYNE OF PROJECT CHILDREN

HON. EDWARD F. FEIGHAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. FEIGHAN. Mr. Speaker, "Love of life, fierce of pride in national heritage, strong religious belief, a sparkling sense of humor—all of these are qualities associated with the Irish people," according to one long-time observer of Ireland. No words could better describe John and Mary Coyne. It is my great pleasure to recognize the achievements of these two remarkable people on the 10th anniversary of Project Children in Cleveland.

Through their leadership, over 135 children from Northern Ireland have learned what it is like to be a young Irish-American in Cleveland: Watching an Indians game, riding a roller coaster at Geauga Lake, visiting our East- and West-side Irish-American clubs, picnicking at the Gilmour Academy, and joining the festivities at the summer Irish-American Festival.

For 6 weeks each summer, Project Children takes children from the violence-ridden neighborhoods of Northern Ireland and places them with American families. There, these children learn how to be kids again—playing baseball, soccer, and taking picnics without worrying about being a casualty of the troubles that continue to plague their country.

Over the years, John and Mary have recruited over 100 host families in neighborhoods throughout the Greater Cleveland area. These families have unselfishly opened their homes and hearts to these children. Through donations provided by the Greater Cleveland Irish community, Project Children covers the \$900 transportation and insurance costs while our community supplies the love these children need once they arrive.

For the children of Northern Ireland, Project Children is a chance to learn that their world is larger than the turmoil at home. For the Irish-American community, the success of Project Children is a concrete demonstration of their commitment to the future of both our countries and to the heritage that we proudly share. I commend John and Mary Coyne and each of the host families for their work in making Project Children in Cleveland a continuing success.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO MORE FAIRLY APPORTION INTEREST EXPENSE

HON. RICHARD T. SCHULZE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. SCHULZE. Mr. Speaker, today, along with my colleagues GUY VANDER JAGT, SANDY

LEVIN, BILL COYNE, and BEN CARDIN, I am introducing legislation to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to more fairly apportion interest expense between domestic and foreign sources. This bill should be an essential part of any tax act intended to speed the economic recovery.

At a time when the Federal Reserve Board, the administration and the Congress have taken various actions intended to drive down interest rates and the cost of new business investment, our tax law includes a provision causing real interest rates for U.S.-based multinational businesses to remain artificially high. At a time when we are encouraging U.S.-owned multinationals to invest more in plant and equipment in the United States, our tax law includes a provision causing the real cost of borrowing to be higher for U.S.-owned multinational corporations than for U.S. subsidiaries of foreign-owned companies.

By allocating too much interest expense to foreign assets and foreign sources, the provision denies multinational companies a fair interest deduction for the interest on debt incurred to finance their U.S. investments. My bill would help reduce this penalty by allocating interest expense to assets on a fairer basis.

Officials from the Treasury Department, staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation and tax practitioners on and off Capitol Hill have examined the problem and my bill. They agree that the problem is real. No experts have disputed that my solution is workable. The Ways and Means Committee and this House must decide whether Congress has the political will to incur a small revenue loss to correct this unintended inequity.

We have now reached the time when the inequity must be eliminated. America will be rewarded for our actions: By increasing the portion of interest expense that is deductible to a U.S.-based multinational corporation, my bill will reduce the real cost of new investment and thereby increase investment in the United States.

I am submitting for the RECORD an explanation of the bill, but let me briefly describe the bill and the problem that it will rectify. Section 864(e) of the Internal Revenue Code requires interest expense to be allocated on the basis of the assets of a consolidated group. Treasury regulations require the allocation to be based on the fair market value of assets or on the adjusted tax basis of assets. Because the fair-market-value option requires expensive annual appraisals, most taxpayers opt for the adjusted-tax-base. But this base results in an apples and oranges comparison. Because assets used in the United States are depreciated for tax purposes more rapidly than assets used outside the United States, assets used outside the United States have higher adjusted tax bases than similar assets used in the United States. Therefore, more interest is allocated to foreign assets than would be allocated if the basis for allocation were neutral.

Foreign assets generally generate foreign source income, so interest expense allocated to foreign assets generally become deductions against foreign income. This reduces the amount of foreign tax credit a company can use—without reducing foreign taxes because the foreign countries may not use the same al-

location method. The foreign source interest expense has no net tax effect for a company in foreign tax credit carryover position. The direct tax savings from the interest deduction is offset by a reduction in credits that can be used. In effect, a foreign-source interest deduction is not deductible.

Suppose as a result of these problems, 70 percent of company's interest expense under the present apples and oranges rule would be allocated to foreign sources, while under a neutral rule 30 percent would be allocated to foreign resources. The company loses a deduction of 40 percent of its interest expense. If interest rates are at 10 percent, the company pays an after-tax rate of interest of (10 percent - $[0.3 \times 0.34 \times 10 \text{ percent}]$) equals 9 percent rather than (10 percent - $[0.7 \times 0.34 \times 10 \text{ percent}]$) equals 7.6 percent. Meanwhile, foreign-owned U.S. companies do not face this problem because the U.S. company generally has no foreign subsidiaries and foreign assets to which its interest is allocated. So in the above example, the foreign-owned U.S. company has an after-tax interest rate of 6.6 percent.

My bill restores some fairness by allowing taxpayers to use a neutral basis for allocation—one that applies the same rules for determining the basis of a domestic asset as it applies for determining the basis of a foreign asset. Interest expense would be allocated to assets using the base applicable for determining earnings and profits.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this technical but very important change in tax law. I insert in the RECORD following my remarks a technical explanation of the bill:

TECHNICAL EXPLANATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO ALLOCATE AND APPORTION INTEREST EXPENSE BASED ON THE EARNINGS AND PROFITS BASES OF ASSETS

BACKGROUND

Section 864(e)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") requires all interest expense to be allocated and apportioned "on the basis of assets rather than gross income" for purposes of sourcing the interest expense. With some narrowly drawn exceptions, Treasury regulations require that interest expense be allocated based on either the "tax book value" (generally, the regular adjusted tax basis) of assets or the fair market value of assets. See Reg. §§ 1.861-8T-1.861-11T.

A corporation must allocate its interest expense to its assets in proportion to the tax book values or fair market values of the assets.¹ Interest allocated to an asset is apportioned in accordance with the income from the asset.

Most corporations do not allocate on the basis of fair market value because the regulations require annual valuations "using generally accepted valuation techniques" to sustain the fair market values. Such valuations are expensive and time consuming. Therefore, most taxpayers use "tax book value" (adjusted tax basis) for allocation and apportionment.

Different rules apply for determining the adjusted tax basis for assets used in the United States ("domestic assets") than apply for assets used outside the country ("foreign assets"). Domestic assets generally are depreciated using accelerated methods

while foreign assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over longer lives. Accordingly, domestic assets have lower adjusted tax bases than comparable foreign assets. This results in disproportionately large interest allocations to foreign assets.

Since foreign assets generally generate foreign source income, the interest allocated to foreign assets generally results in foreign source deductions. Thus, foreign source income is understated. This reduces the foreign tax credit that a company can use because, as a general rule, the credit allowable in any year for foreign tax may not exceed the U.S. income tax computed on foreign source income. If a company is in an excess foreign tax position, the interest deduction that is allocated to foreign sources has no tax value. For every dollar that the deduction reduces tax liability, the foreign tax credit that the company can use is reduced by a dollar; the company's net tax liability is not reduced.

These allocation rules place U.S.-based multinational corporations at a competitive disadvantage relative to U.S. subsidiaries of foreign corporations. If a U.S. subsidiary of a foreign corporation has no foreign assets, interest incurred by the subsidiary to build its American business will be fully deductible against U.S. taxable income. On the other hand, if an American-owned multinational corporation borrowed to build its U.S. business, a disproportionate amount of that interest would be allocated to foreign sources and would be essentially nondeductible if the multinational corporation were in an excess foreign tax position.

These allocation rules also discourage U.S.-based multinational corporations from investing at home. The rules increase a U.S.-based multinational corporation's real cost of debt-financed investment in the United States by effectively denying an interest deduction for a disproportionate amount of the interests on the debt. This additional cost could be the factor that causes a company not to build a plant in the United States.

EXPLANATION OF THE AMENDMENT

The amendment would permit taxpayers to elect to use the earnings and profits (E&P) bases of assets, rather than the adjusted tax bases, for purposes of allocating interest expense. The E&P basis of an asset is the basis of the assets, as determined under the rules of section 312, used (or that would be used if the taxpayer were a corporation) for purposes of determining E&P. E&P basis would reflect both depreciation rules under section 312(k) and the special rules under section 312(n) on items such as intangible drilling costs, mineral exploration and development costs, and LIFO inventory adjustments.

Domestic assets have higher E&P bases than regular tax bases. For example, under regular tax rules, assets used in the United States in the manufacture of automobiles are depreciated over 7 years using 200 percent declining balance, switching to straight-line method. Under E&P rules, the assets are depreciated ratably over 12 years. Thus, \$1 million of automobile manufacturing assets placed in service in 1988 would have a regular tax basis of \$223,000 in the beginning of 1993 and an E&P basis of \$625,000. This would also be the regular tax basis if the assets were used outside the United States.

The legislation would be effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1991.

RATIONALE FOR USE OF E&P BASIS

This amendment uses E&P basis for several reasons.

This would not be a new computation. Corporations must compute E&P for various purposes, including to determine whether payments to shareholders are taxable dividends or return of capital.

The E&P rules are similar to the rules now in effect for determining the tax bases of foreign assets. For example, the alternative depreciation system of section 168(g) now applies for determining both E&P depreciation and regular tax depreciation of assets used abroad.

A U.S. corporation's tax basis in a controlled foreign corporation is adjusted for the E&P of the CFCs. Since CFCs are major assets of many U.S. based international corporate groups, the bases of other assets should be determined consistently with the bases of the CFCs.

The rules apportion and allocate on the basis of assets because debt is fungible; a corporate borrower essentially uses all of its assets to secure its debt. Lenders look at the value of assets. For many assets, E&P basis is a more realistic estimate of value than is adjusted tax basis.

REVENUE ESTIMATE

The staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation estimated that a proposed similar to the amendment described above would lose approximately \$100 million per year. In an August 22, 1991, response to a request from Representative Michael Andrews, the Joint Committee staff provided the following revenue estimate for proposed legislation enacted October 1, 1991, and effective for tax years beginning after 1990:

Fiscal year:	Revenue loss
1992	\$200,000,000
1993	100,000,000
1994	100,000,000
1995	100,000,000
1996	100,000,000
Total	700,000,000

¹The assumed October 1 date of enactment shifted what would otherwise have been a fiscal year 1991 loss into fiscal year 1992. This figure reflects the loss from 1.75 calendar years—all of 1991 and the first 9 months of 1992.

It can be argued that this proposal should have no revenue loss at all because Treasury has sufficient power to achieve the proposed result through regulations.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS HALEY

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding citizen, Deputy Thomas Haley, from Midland, MI.

Deputy Haley began working for the Midland County Sheriff Department in 1980 in the records department. He was quickly promoted to the lein/dispatcher position after taking a competitive examination for the position. Since taking the new job he has proven himself an effective dispatcher with a very special gift that not only allows him to stay calm in stressful situations, but it also gives him the ability to calm others down and transmit life-saving information over the telephone.

More than once this gift has saved the lives of infants and children who were in mortal danger. He has given CPR instructions to

¹This rule applies to a consolidated group as if it were a single corporation that owned the assets owned by its members.

near-hysterical mothers in order to revive infants. He has also given instructions to frantic parents whose children were choking or having seizures. Deputy Haley was recently honored for this ability by the Midland County Board of Commissioners.

Deputy Haley currently lives with his wife and four children in the city of Midland. He was born in Midland County and has lived there his entire life, taking an active role in the community. He is a past vice president of the Plymouth Elementary PTO and is involved in numerous other activities at his children's school.

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Haley was awarded the Carl and Esther Gerstacker award for Deputy Sheriff of the Year for 1991. I know you will join with me in honoring and thanking Thomas Haley for his commitment to the people of mid-Michigan.

IN HONOR OF STATE SENATOR
VIRGINIA B. MACDONALD

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, the people of Illinois, and in particular the residents of our 27th State Senatorial District, have had the good fortune to be served by State Senator Virginia B. Macdonald for almost 20 years. Since Senator Macdonald has indicated she will retire at the end of her current term, I want to pay tribute to her outstanding career of leadership and dedicated service.

I am particularly pleased to enter these remarks on behalf of Ginny, as she is known to all of her friends. We began our careers in public office together as part of the class of 1972, freshman legislators elected to the Illinois House of Representatives. Ginny was a member of the house for a decade before being elected to the State senate in 1983, and she has served with great distinction in both chambers.

As a member of the senate judiciary committee, public health, welfare and corrections committee, and finance and credit regulations committee, Ginny demonstrated her leadership and legislative skill in addressing a wide range of difficult public policy issues. Her hard work and involved advocacy has won the respect and admiration of her colleagues, as well as a long list of outstanding legislator awards from organizations throughout Illinois.

Ginny's contributions to Illinois include her vital role in shaping our State's current constitution, as a delegate to the Sixth Illinois Constitutional Convention. Her efforts helped ensure that the underlying law of our State adhered to the basic principles of essential citizens rights and freedoms while providing an open, responsible State government.

In addition, Ginny has been forceful voice in the Illinois Republican Party. She has served as the president of the Illinois Federation of Republican Women and was the Republican county chairwoman for Cook County. A founding member of the Wheeling Township Women's Republican Club, Ginny was also a former Republican committeewoman of Wheeling Township.

Ginny's work on behalf of the community is impressive by anyone's standards. She has served on the boards of many social service organizations, including: the advisory council, community counseling center, suburban branch of the Salvation Army Family Division; the citizens advisory council, Elk Grove-Schaumburg Townships Mental Health Center, and numerous others.

Ginny and her husband Alan have been residents of Arlington Heights for over 30 years and are the parents of two children, Alan Jr. and Susan. Ginny's retirement from the senate will allow her to spend more time with her family, and while we in Illinois send her and Alan our very best wishes for all the years ahead, we also know that we are losing one of our State's finest public servants.

I want to join Ginny's constituents, and all the residents of Illinois, in congratulating her for her exemplary service to our State and thanking her for all of her wonderful contributions. Ginny has set enduring standards of excellence in government for the rest of us to admire and pursue.

BILL WEAVER CELEBRATES 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. BILL ALEXANDER

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of a respected member of the Jonesboro, AR, community. Bill Weaver, former city councilman, charter member of the Elks Lodge No. 498 and active Chamber of Commerce member, has played a major role in helping to make Jonesboro the strong northeast Arkansas community it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the following article from the Jonesboro Sun into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as tribute to Bill Weaver.

[From the Jonesboro Sun, Jan. 29, 1992]

100TH BIRTHDAY FOR AUTO DEALER

(By Wendy Reiser)

How does it feel to be 100 years old?

"Not more than what I felt at 50," said Bill Weaver, owner of Central Chevrolet Company Inc., 330 South Union.

Weaver, who celebrated his 100th birthday by giving \$100 to everyone who bought a car or truck Tuesday, bought the dealership in 1932 and still manages to show up for work, health permitting.

Bud Gregson, Central's general manager, said Weaver often told him when business was bad not to worry.

"He'd pat me on the back and say, 'Don't let bad business bother you. I've seen it worse,'" Gregson recalled.

"When he first started, it (Central) wasn't very large," Doyle "Pete" Yarbrough, Weaver's nephew, said.

"At the time, all the banks in Jonesboro had failed (during the Depression)," Yarbrough said. "He (Weaver) would have to go to Bono-Citizens Bank. He would take the receipts in the afternoon because he was afraid to leave them here."

In addition to taking precautions with the receipts, Yarbrough said Weaver had trouble

selling cars during the Depression, then getting cars to sell during World War II.

"He couldn't get any automobiles to sell (during the war)," Yarbrough said. "He had to lay off salesman. After World War II, he began to sell cars."

Weaver, the oldest Chevrolet car dealer in the United States, started out in the Jonesboro area as a school teacher at Ridge Station on Arkansas 1 south of Jonesboro.

After college, first attending a college in Heber Springs, then at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., Weaver became a pharmacist.

"Evidently it (selling cars) looked more attractive," Yarbrough said. "He studied medicine and had on his mind to be a doctor. I guess it wasn't fast enough for him."

Gregson said one of the things Weaver expects his employees to do is to arrive on time each day.

"Mr. Weaver gives a good day's pay, but expects a good day's work in return," Gregson said.

In addition to arriving for work each day, Gregson said Weaver has the ability to say "yes" or "no" on business decisions instead of second guessing.

"He (Weaver) doesn't have to double think it (business)," Yarbrough said. "He thinks about it. His mind is made up before he says it. He doesn't second guess it."

Jay Raybuck, the pastor at First Presbyterian Church, 710 Southwest Drive, said Weaver is a goal-oriented and industrious person.

"When they completed another five year contract with GM, Bud (Central's general manager) asked what was next. Mr. Weaver answered, 'We'll do another contract,'" Raybuck said.

Raybuck also said when a person reached 90, he could pretty much do what he wanted.

"At 12, noon, (Sundays) if I wasn't done, he (Weaver) was," Raybuck said. "He and his wife would get up and leave the church. They sat in the front."

Weaver, who was born and reared in Craighead County near Valley View, served on the Jonesboro City Council from April 8, 1929, until April 11, 1949.

In addition to his tenure as alderman, Weaver worked with the Greater Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce and was one of the charter members of the Jonesboro Elks Lodge No. 498.

"He and his wife (Marguerite, 88) were regular lunch customers at the Elks Lodge," Gid Massey, current exalted ruler of the lodge, said. "One time, somebody had sat at their table. Mr. Weaver told the person, 'You got my table.'"

Massey said the Elks Lodge was planning to present Weaver with a plaque marking his 77 years of service to the lodge both as secretary for 20 years and exalted ruler, top officer of the lodge, for four years.

Despite the lodge's social aspects, Massey said Weaver remained committed to the lodge itself and its benevolent programs.

"If we (the Elks) ever needed any money, Mr. Weaver would always reach in his pocket," Massey said. "He might look to see how much, but he would always contribute."

Until three years ago (1988-89), Weaver still drove himself wherever he needed to go.

However, his last driving trip occurred when Weaver drove himself to the hospital for kidney surgery, Mrs. Anita Yarbrough, his nephew's wife, said.

"The former sheriff, Floyd Johnson, told the people he bumped—he'd had a few fender benders on the way in—'Be calm. Mr. Weaver will be more than happy to fix your car,'" Mrs. Yarbrough said.

For the celebration of Weaver's birthday, the staff at Central decorated the showroom with red, white and blue balloons. Two Chevrolet officials from Memphis sent Weaver 100 red roses.

In addition to the party decorations, approximately 300 people attended a reception held in Weaver's honor.

Weaver also received a City of Jonesboro proclamation from Mayor Hubert Brodell declaring Tuesday, "W.R. 'Bill' Weaver Day," a letter from President Bush and a citation from Gov. Bill Clinton.

**CONGRATULATING THE CONCH
OUT CLUB OF AMERICA**

HON. THOMAS J. DOWNEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. DOWNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to introduce a group of individuals who have found a novel way to promote physical fitness and exercise through the simple art of having fun. I am speaking of the Conch Out Club of America, Inc., which was officially formed last year by a group of ordinary people from the Washington, DC, area who were inspired to do some extraordinary things.

The Conch Out Club of America was established as a result of a noncompetitive triathlon that was held in Freeport, Grand Bahama in 1988. This event was the culmination of months of cross training that began because of a column in the Washington Post entitled "Fit Over 40," written by Remar Sutton, a self-proclaimed "former couch potato." In this column, Mr. Sutton challenged his more sedentary readers to emulate his own personal story, and change their lifestyle by training for a winter triathlon. He then provided a training calendar and enticed his readers to join him for dinner under the Caribbean stars once it was over. From this column, over 400 individuals from the Washington, DC, area took Remar up on his offer—and completed the first annual conchathon on November 23, 1988. Most had never even seen a triathlon before.

Many would have been happy to have been just a spectator until they experienced crossing that finish line. For many, participating in the triathlon changed their lives and put them on the path to a healthier and more active way of life.

This event was the beginning of a series of events that has sparked great interest in the noncompetitive triathlon—a triathlon where everyone who finishes is a winner.

As someone who enjoys exercise, and who depends upon physical fitness to keep me healthy, alert, and productive, I want to commend this fine group of people. I am concerned about the number of people in this country who do not recognize that physical fitness and sound nutrition are ways to prolong and improve their lives. On February 25, the Subcommittee on Human Services of the House Select Committee on Aging which I have the privilege to chair is holding a hearing on physical fitness and aging. The purpose of this hearing is to promote and advance the benefits of physical fitness for people 55 years of age and older. The Conch Out Club shows

that it recognizes this priority for people of all ages, and I am proud to say that I am an honorary member of this club.

The Conch Out Club of America is a non-profit charitable and educational organization. Its entire board of directors is made up of veterans of past conchathons—who call themselves Conch Outs—pronounced "conk"—and who upon learning that the "Fit Over 40" column would not be continued decided to continue the spirit of conchdom as an incorporated organization. Since the formation of the club, its membership has soared and application requests are being processed every day in record numbers. Besides holding events in very inviting tropical climates that have included two trips to the Bahamas and one to Key West, the Conch Outs publish a regular newsletter, hold seminars, provide educational information on nutrition, training, health, motivation, coordination, and organize noncompetitive athletic events such as bike trips, biathlons, and swimming parties.

There is even a database used by the club to match training partners. The Conch Outs have also participated and assisted in two Washington, DC, based minitriathlons. And, of course, there is the social aspect. Conch Outs do know how to have fun.

Within the ranks of the Conch Outs are people of all ages and professions, people who are disabled or who are recovering from illness or surgery, entire family units, and individuals from all over the country. Because of the success of the national Conch Out Club, a chapter is currently being formed in northwest Florida with a promise of more to come.

The Conch Out Club should be very proud of its accomplishments. There has been a change in attitude in this country about physical fitness and health in the last several decades. The American Heart Association used to list three risk factors for heart disease—smoking, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. Now the medical community has added another risk factor—inactivity. The Conch Outs, while a fun-loving group, take their mission very seriously. They strive to put an end to inactivity by setting realistic goals and then reaching them. By taking that first step toward reaching their goal, they are already experiencing victory.

I congratulate this creative organization and its membership on its continuing success, and I hope that they will continue to use their influence to improve the quality of life for all Americans.

**INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4231, THE
INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING
ACTIVITIES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORIZATION ACT,
FISCAL YEARS 1992 AND 1993**

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing H.R. 4231, the International Peacekeeping Activities Supplemental Authorization Act for fiscal years 1992 and 1993. This legislation responds to an executive branch re-

quest for supplemental funding for peacekeeping activities undertaken by the United States in conjunction with the international community. It fulfills statutory requirements for supplemental authorization set out in section 15(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956.

**A TRIBUTE TO A DEDICATED
WORKER AND GOOD FRIEND: JOSEPH
JENNINGS, JR.**

HON. LUCIEN E. BLACKWELL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. BLACKWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Joseph A. Jennings, Jr. upon his retirement from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. As a close and personal friend of Joe Jennings, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the achievements of this remarkable and esteemed man.

Throughout the course of his employment with the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue, Joe Jennings consistently set new standards for department employees. Joe served in the capacity of revenue investigator from September 1971 until 1989 when the department reorganized and awarded him the title of revenue enforcement collections agent—the highest position in his employment classification. Joe's extensive knowledge of the rules pertaining to taxation laws and his ability to work under extreme pressure made him a tremendous asset to the department until his retirement on December 31 of last year.

In addition to his accomplishments at the Department of Revenue, Joe has been a major player in the hectic, yet never dull world of Philadelphia politics. As a committeeman of the 46th ward, Joe Jennings has presided over countless elections and meetings, always seeking to keep his neighbors will informed. Joe has also been instrumental in the election of many State representatives and senators, city councilpersons, U.S. Representatives and Senators, and even Presidents. I certainly credit Joe for introducing me to politics, and it is, indeed, safe to say that I would not be standing here before you today were it not for the invaluable counsel and advice I have received over the years from this most special man.

Even though Joe Jennings has retired from the department of revenue, I know that he will be even more entrenched as he faithfully spreads his time between his family, the church, and his political duties. As a model to his friends and neighbors, Joe will always be a pillar of strength for those around him. I cannot thank my friend "Slim" enough for all that he has done for the city of Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America. I ask my colleagues to rise and pay tribute to Mr. Joseph A. Jennings, Jr.

TRIBUTE TO THE BARBOUR COUNTY, AL, RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

HON. WILLIAM L. DICKINSON

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. DICKINSON. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to the 510 members of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Barbour County, AL, and their director, Barbara Crapps. The RSVP is very active in Barbour County and makes an outstanding contribution to the life of the Barbour County community.

RSVP provides meaningful volunteer opportunities for people who are retired or semiretired. In turn, these volunteers happily donate their time and perform valuable services for the community. Each RSVP member must give 12 hours of volunteer work each year to be counted an active member.

In 1991, the Barbour County RSVP volunteers held a successful daylong seminar on drug abuse among the elderly. They also served as hosts and hostesses for the "Nights Before Christmas," 2 nights of open house held at historic Fendall Hall, where visitors enjoyed refreshments and seasonal music performed by local choirs.

In 1992, the volunteers will continue to serve as guides at Fendall Hall. They will also continue their work with youth at the Eufaula Adolescent Center and the Alabama Sheriff Boys' Ranch at Clayton.

I ask members of Congress to join me in recognizing the Barbour County Retired Senior Volunteers, Director Barbara Crapps, and her staff for their accomplishments in helping to make Barbour County a wonderful place to live.

THE DAWN REDWOOD SALUTES AMERICA'S QUINCENTENARY

HON. JAMES H. (JIMMY) QUILLEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. QUILLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 500th anniversary year of Christopher Columbus' first voyage to North America in a most appropriate way, through trees. I refer not to the stately shade and ornamental trees which are familiar to all of us, but to some very special trees planted 2 years ago in my own First Congressional District of the State of Tennessee especially for the quincentenary.

The F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co. of Connecticut, which has extensive operations in Tennessee and other States coast to coast, made the decision to select the dawn redwood as a quincentenary commemorative tree over 2 years ago. An arrangement was made with Greenwood Nursery of McMinnville, TN, to propagate some 10,000 seedlings, which are about to be distributed for planting during 1992—free of charge—to recipients in all 50 States and our territories, as well as several foreign countries.

The Bartlett Co. has been responsible for planting and distributing several thousand liberty centennial memorial trees—London plants grown from seed of existing trees on Liberty and Ellis Islands in New York Harbor—in 1987 for the centennial observance of the Statue of Liberty, which was written into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in 1987.

The story of Columbus' accidental discovery of America in 1492 while seeking a westward route to the riches of the Spice Islands off the southeastern coast of Asia is familiar to all of us. The discovery of the dawn redwood is an equally fascinating story, but it is not well known.

Neither the tree nor our continent required discovery. Each had been well known and in productive use by native people for many centuries prior to its official discovery by outsiders.

The very existence of the tree was unknown until 449 years after Columbus' voyage. In 1941 Japanese paleobotanist Shigeru Miki confirmed the new genus through fossil evidence collected in Japan and other places in the Northern Hemisphere. He named it *metasequoia* because of its close botanical relationship to the coastal redwoods, sequoias, of California. *Meta* is derived from the Greek and means beyond, while *Sequoia* was a Cherokee Indian scholar whose name had been assigned to the American redwood by German botanist Endlicher in 1847.

Miki and his associates collected evidence that the extinct deciduous conifer had at one time been widely distributed throughout the temperate zones of the Northern Hemisphere back to the Cretaceous period, which occurred near the end of the Mesozoic era some 130 million years ago. Like the dinosaurs, the reason the dawn redwood became extinct was unknown.

By a coincidence of incredible magnitude, during the same year that Miki first found fossil evidence of the supposedly extinct tree, a Chinese botanist named Kan came across three living conifers of unknown genus in a rugged mountain valley of remote Szechwan Province along its border with Hupeh Province. War was raging in China at that time in 1941, so no action was taken on Kan's discovery until 1945 when another Chinese botanist, T. Wang, journeyed to Szechwan to collect material from the trees. While there he located a few more trees of the same unknown genus nearby.

Prof. Wan-Chung Cheng of the National Central University of Nanking and his assistant, C.J. Hseuh, led a 1964 expedition to the area and expanded the census of known live trees to 25 specimens. These botanists confirmed the genus as *metasequoia* and assigned the botanical species name *glyptostroboidea*. Also derived from the Greek, *glyptos* means engraved or grooved and *strobos* means pine cone. The tongue-twisting name describes the distinctive slit that runs along the edge of each *metasequoia* cone scale.

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Boston, became interested in the newly discovered trees in late 1946. They extended a small monetary grant to Dr. H.H. Hu of Peiping, who had trained at the Arnold Arboretum and earned his Sc.D. at Harvard, for a

more extensive third expedition. Dr. Hu learned that the recently named *metasequoia* had been known to the farmers of this remote region for centuries as *shui-san*, which means water larch. They used it as feed for livestock.

Dr. Hu collected a small number of seeds from the trees and sent them to the Arnold Arboretum, where they were received on January 5, 1948, and immediately propagated. A larger seed shipment arrived a few weeks later.

The Arnold Arboretum, in an effort to reestablish *metasequoia glyptostroboidea* over its prehistoric range, distributed seeds or seedlings to universities, arboreta, botanists, and organizations throughout the temperate zones of the Northern Hemisphere. The resulting trees have done well in cultivation. Some examples of the original 1948 seedlings have grown to 90 to 100 feet in height and are still going strong.

The common name, dawn redwood, gives this tree its deserved mystique by suggesting its long history to the dawn of time and its close relationship to the great redwoods of the western coastal regions of North America.

The dawn redwoods that we plant in 1992 may very well live to benefit our descendants several generations from now. These trees maintain a graceful, thin, pyramidal silhouette with very light, twiggy branches. Their foliage holds its delightful light green color until late in the season when it turns to creamy gold, sometimes tinged with pink, then to shades of amber before dropping. Remember, this is a deciduous conifer, not an evergreen.

Trunks of larger specimens take on a rich, ginger red color and are often a maze of deep flutings that writhe down the trunk for 2 or 3 feet and stop. There is some shedding of outer bark. These characteristics make it a beautiful addition to the winter landscape, especially after snowfall.

Metasequoia glyptostroboidea has few natural enemies, having simply outlived them. It is not prone to insect damage or disease and requires little maintenance. The dawn redwood has a definite liking for water. The original trees in China are located beside rivers, streams, and ponds. Those planted in North America seem to grow faster if planted near water, but this does not imply that specimens planted elsewhere are struggling. The species has proven to be hardy as far north as New England and even in some of the lower reaches of Canada.

Allow your imagination to transport you back in time to the era of dinosaurs and spiny tailed reptiles lumbering through a misty wetland in what may now be a large American city, feeding on ancestors of the very trees that we will plant in 1992 to commemorate Columbus' voyage. Let your mind conjure up the catastrophic events that must have occurred in intervening eons that resulted in the extinction of almost all of the life forms of that time. How did it come to be that this tree, this living bond to those ancient times, survived only in a single remote mountain valley in far off China?

The dawn redwood is not merely a living link to prehistory, but also a bond to future generations of our descendants who will live in its shadows. As these special trees from my home State grow and mature, they will experience events that we can't even imagine.

May these Tennessee trees survive to be part of the millennium of Columbus' voyage in the year 2492.

In closing, it is fitting that I recognize the interest and help of certain people who have contributed to the success of this special Quincentenary commemoration. They include:

R. A. Bartlett, chairman, the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co.

Steve Jones, Greenwood Nursery.

J.B. Grant, former executive secretary, NASDA.

Robert Amato, assistant executive secretary, NASDA.

Terry D. Strueh, president, NASDA.

S. Mason Carbaugh, former commissioner of agriculture, Virginia.

L.H. "Cotton" Ivy, commissioner of agriculture, Tennessee.

Mrs. Marie H. Yochim, president general, NSDAR.

Mrs. Frederick J. Bernhardt, regent, commonwealth chapter, NSDAR.

Dr. Michael Deckwitz, First Secretary (Agriculture), Embassy of Germany.

Manuel de la Camara, Minister (Economic and Commercial Affairs), Embassy of Spain.

Thomas L. Sansonetti, Solicitor, Department of the Interior.

James Ridenour, Director, National Park Service.

Walter E. Dages, the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co.

Dr. Bruce Fraedrich, director of research, Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories.

Bob Hoskins, corporate director, the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co. and Frances Light Currie, my administrative assistant.

A TOAST FOR THE TOASTMASTERS CLUB OF SAN LEANDRO

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the 45th anniversary of the San Leandro Toastmasters Club. It is the oldest such club in a Toastmasters district which stretches from Fremont, CA, to the Oregon border. The San Leandro Toastmasters Club has been a success at providing a supportive environment for people to develop the ability to become effective public speakers.

The Toastmasters are a national public speaking organization which provides a constructive forum for building communication and leadership skills. Open to all, some people join Toastmasters simply to confront and overcome their fear of appearing before an audience. Others become members in order to network and make new friends. And many join to develop and refine the subtle components of speech required for persuasive and inspiring expression. But all who join Toastmasters gain the opportunity to transform themselves into superior orators.

Each speech given at every meeting receives a structured, supportive review which provides positive reinforcement and constructive criticism. Such insight helps people to appreciate and study the vital elements of effective

delivery. Members learn to master eye contact, a sense of timing, pronunciation, humor, composure, and persuasiveness. While also learning to accept and benefit from the assessments of others, members develop and refine the ability to productively impart positive feedback. In addition to prepared speeches, each person is encouraged to speak extemporaneously, so as to be better prepared for impromptu situations. Each meeting of the Toastmasters is an opportunity for people to conquer stage fright, hone their speaking skills, and gain confidence.

Many members have testified to the merits of the Toastmasters organization, having found greater success in their jobs as a direct result of their participation in it. In particular, the San Leandro Club has earned more distinguished club honors than any other club in its district.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe the 45th anniversary of the San Leandro Toastmasters Club and salute their success.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO EXTEND SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME TO GUAM AND THE TERRITORIES

HON. BEN GARRIDO BLAZ

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. BLAZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill to extend the supplemental security income [SSI] coverage to the residents of Guam and the territories.

When President Bush stated during his State of the Union Address on January 26, 1992 that he was not subjecting Social Security benefits for the elderly to reduction, he demonstrated once more how sensitive that subject is and how volatile it would have been had he attempted to reduce these benefits. In the entire Federal budget no program is protected from budget cuts more vigorously than Social Security and its related program, the supplemental security income (SSI).

About 20 years ago, Congress enacted SSI to provide the most needy of our citizens with a minimum income. The SSI Program provides benefits to low-income (age 65 and above), disabled or blind individuals who satisfy both income and asset eligibility requirements. These benefits are extended to Americans residing in each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; however, they are not extended to residents in other U.S. territories such as Guam which is located a few dozen miles south of the Northern Marianas. Affording these benefits to residents of one island and not to another is tantamount to extending benefits to residents of Chicago's North Side but not to fellow Americans in the South Side.

For over a decade, Guam and the territories have sought amendment to the Social Security Act for extension of SSI benefits to their residents. Our many efforts have been rebuffed at every turn. This program is no less sacred to the needy of Guam than to the needy of the rest of our Nation. While there may be con-

stitutional reasons why Guamanians do not enjoy the right to vote for the President and why I do not vote in the House floor, there is no constitutional prohibition to prevent the people of Guam—U.S. citizens all—from receiving SSI benefits. It is particularly galling for the citizens in Guam to realize that they do not receive these benefits even though their fellow citizens immediately to the north in the Northern Mariana Islands do.

It is time for Congress to reverse this meaningless discrimination. The poor, elderly, disabled and the blind on Guam are as deserving as their fellow citizens in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas.

TRIBUTE TO THE "WOMEN'S YELLOW PAGES"

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. WELDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw my colleagues' attention to a remarkable book which helps women entrepreneurs from all over the Delaware Valley. The book to which I refer is the "Women's Yellow Pages."

Founded in 1982 by Ellen T. Fisher, the "Women's Yellow Pages" is a critical resource for women business owners. Women entrepreneurs have attained new-found financial success and a great deal of that success is owed to the "Women's Yellow Pages." The "Women's Yellow Pages" of Greater Philadelphia has promoted more than 4,000 women-owned businesses to over 100,000 agencies, corporations, and consumers. Also, it has set a standard for the rest of the country.

For 10 years now, women have turned to this book in order to support their colleagues in business. The book is a useful guide to a wide array of women businesses from auto body repair shops to therapists. Even with the state of today's economy, women's businesses continue to grow. This particular "Women's Yellow Pages" is the most widely used on the entire east coast.

In addition to the business listings, the "Women's Yellow Pages" yields advice as it serves as an invaluable guide to starting a business. The service also provides hot lines for legislators and the media.

I stand here today and applaud the accomplishments of the "Women's Yellow Pages." The book has broken down barriers that once impeded upon women's businesses and has allowed these businesses to prosper.

RECOGNITION OF THE NCRC/AODA FOR 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BILL ZELIFF

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Mr. ZELIFF. Mr. Speaker, the Congress has promoted its latest war on drugs through the passage of the Omnibus Drug Act of 1986. It has sought to enhance law enforcement and

correctional activities in regard to illegal drug use, distribution and sales through increases in moneys to the States for Justice related activities. Yearly increases to the alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health block grant has fostered treatment services expansion. Establishment of the Office for Substance Abuse Prevention and the Office for Treatment Improvement, within the last 5 years has allowed for targeted grants for services to special populations, women and pregnant addicts, youth at risk, dual diagnosed individuals and community partnerships.

Predating all of the above, however, has been the work of a number of local and State level boards who have been in the business of consumer protection for over 10 years. Last year, the National Certification Reciprocity Consortium, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Inc. held its 10th annual meeting as an incorporated entity. This organization composed currently of 41 State certification boards and

certification boards of the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Navy and Marines, and Canada represents over 25,000 alcoholism and/or drug abuse counselors who have been conducting their own war on drugs through the provision of quality services to all our constituents who may be in need.

The consortium, incorporated in 1981, was created to promote uniform professional standards and quality of treatment for the alcoholism and other drug abuse counseling profession and to give the profession greater visibility. The activities leading to the formation of the consortium actually began back in 1977 when 10 State boards met to discuss establishment of appropriate criteria for quality care. In 1979, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Michigan met and after deciding upon mutually agreeable standards, signed the first reciprocity agreement.

The multiboard/multi-State collaboration fosters increased credibility and visibility for the

alcoholism and other drug professional and has allowed for the joint development of testing procedures by which to effectively measure counselor competency. A role delineation study completed in 1982 by the consortium resulted in the identification and defining of the 12 counselor core functions. A recently updated role delineation study has resulted in the production of the first national written test for substance abuse counselors. The testing procedure now in place, compliments the findings of the federally funded Birch/Davis Report of 1984.

It is fitting that at this 10th anniversary of an organization which has grown from 3 members to 44, the annual meeting was held in Milwaukee, WI, home of one of the founding boards. As we enter a new decade, we applaud your work NCRC/AODA and wish you continued success.